

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2022 – SB 1953

March 14, 2016

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes the Department of Transportation (TDOT) to construct and operate a mass transit system on the shoulder of any state and interstate highway.

Authorizes TDOT to enter into a contract with transportation providers to operate the mass transit system, and to consult with the federal highway commission, metropolitan and rural planning organizations, local and regional transit authorities, and affected counties and cities along the right of ways of the affected highways.

Authorizes TDOT to identify sources of funding for operation and construction of the system, and to establish necessary procedures for the safety of passengers and vehicles on or adjacent to the system.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

To the extent the Department of Transportation undertakes a mass transit project pursuant to the provisions of this bill; one-time costs for development and construction are reasonably estimated to exceed \$1,000,000; and recurring costs for operation and maintenance are reasonably estimated to exceed \$100,000. Depending on the specifics of any given project undertaken, the costs could be funded with various combinations of federal, state, and local funding. The timing for any such expenditure is unknown. In addition, and to the extent user fees could be charged, some portion or all expenditures incurred could be recaptured.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014049): Deletes all language of the original bill. Authorizes a bus driver operating a publicly-owned transit agency to overtake and pass a vehicle on the right when operating on the shoulder or right-of-way on any state or interstate highway as authorized by the TDOT. Creates a Class C misdemeanor offense for non-authorized emergency vehicles operating on the shoulder or right-of-way of such highways. Prohibits the use a school bus in such lanes. Authorizes TDOT to promulgate rules in accordance the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act for establishing procedures for authorizing the operation of buses on the shoulder right-of-way and regulations for ensuring the safety of passengers on buses and in vehicles operating on the main traveled way of the adjacent highway or right-of-way. Requires the TDOT to submit a detailed report on the status of any shoulder right-of-way for the construction or improvement for bus operation to the Transportation and Safety Committee of the Senate and the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives by March 1, 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

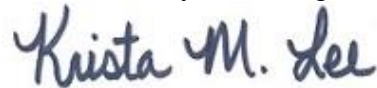
NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on the information provided by TDOT, any impact to the department to promulgate rules as required by the legislation is estimated to be not significant.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for the state or local governments to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- TDOT will prepare and submit the required report on the status of any shoulder right-of-way for the construction or improvement for a bus operation using existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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